

Amendments to the Specification:

Replace the paragraphs beginning at page 1, line 6 and ending on page 1, line 11 with the following paragraph:

In vehicles, vehicle body frames are known in which hollow frame members such as side frames extending longitudinally along a vehicle body are provided (for example, refer to ~~Patent Literature No. 1~~).
{~~Patent Literature No. 1~~}
JP-A-11-5564 (pages 2 and 3, Figs. 1 and 2)).

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, lines 12-20 with the following paragraph:

According to ~~Patent Literature No. 1~~ JP-A-11-5564, in a conventional vehicle body frame, a side frame such as a front-end side frame extending longitudinally along a vehicle body comprises a hollow frame member which comprises, in turn, an extruded member of aluminum, longitudinal and transverse ribs are integrally formed within the hollow frame member, and the thicknesses of the hollow frame member and the longitudinal and transverse ribs are made to increase progressively from front and rear ends of a vehicle toward the passenger compartment thereof.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 24 and ending at page 9, line 2 with the following paragraph:

The side frame 40 is a hollow frame member comprising a casting alloy or steel.
Hereinafter, the side frame 40 is referred to as a "hollow frame member 40" from time to time depending on the description to be made.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 3 and ending at page 12, line 14 with the following paragraph:

Fig. 3A shows a test sample used for a static load compression test. The test sample is a steel product formed into a structure having a rectangular closed cross section by closing an opening in a top-hat member with a flat plate, the structure being 300mm long and the closed cross section thereof extending uniformly along the full length thereof. The respective dimensions of the test sample are such that the width is 40mm, the height 80mm, the overall height of the top-hat member 110mm, and the thickness of the ~~top-hat~~ top-hat member and the flat plate 1.2mm. Namely, the test sample is a structure having a rectangular closed cross section which is 40mm wide and 80mm high.

Replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 5-11 with the following paragraph:

Fig. 4A illustrates a test sample used in a static load compression test. The test sample is a structure having a uniform square cross section in which the length of a side is set to b and the thickness thereof is 1.6mm. Variation in buckling mode pitch p is illustrated in Fig. 4B which resulted when a longitudinal compression is applied to the test sample with the length of the side thereof being changed.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 24 and ending at page 15, line 12 with the following paragraph:

Fig. 5A shows a test sample used for a static load compression test, and Fig. 5B shows a cross-sectional construction taken along the line b-b in Fig. 5A. The test sample is a structure having a uniform rectangular cross section in which the length of a side is set to b_1 , the length of a side which is normal to the side having the length b_1 is set to b_2 , and the thickness thereof is 1.6mm. Fig. 5C illustrates the variation in the buckling mode pitch p resulting when a static load compression test is carried out on the test sample by applying a longitudinal compression load to the test sample with a sum of the length b_1 of the one side and the length b_2 of the other side thereof being set so as to become 150mm (constant), and a ratio of the length ~~b_1~~ b_1 of the one side to the length b_2 of the other side being caused to vary.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 18 and ending at page 20, line 23 with the following paragraph:

The hollow frame member 40 according to the first modified example is characterized in that respective ribs 53 . . . are divided into two parts. The rib 53 includes a first rib half 61 which is integrally formed on the interior of a first frame half 51 and a second rib half 62 which is integrally formed on an inner circumferential surface of a second frame ~~half~~ half 52.

Replace the Abstract with the following:

ABSTRACT ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A vehicle body frame is such as to be provided with cast hollow frame members 40 such as side frames extending longitudinally along a vehicle body. ~~A plurality~~ A plurality of ribs 53 [[. . .]] are provided at certain regular intervals p_1 on an inner circumferential surface 41 of the cast hollow frame member so as to partition the interior of the hollow frame member longitudinally at the certain regular intervals p_1 . The hollow frame member buckles and deforms subsequently from one end 42 thereof at the certain regular intervals so that the crash energy can be absorbed stably and sufficiently.